

Chairperson: Carlessia Hussein  
 Vice Chairperson: Gary Stewart  
 Executive Secretary: Maura Rossman, M.D., Antigone Vickery  
 Recorded By: Antigone Vickery

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

### June Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** June 26, 2018  
**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Howard County Health Department  
 8930 Stanford Blvd., Columbia, MD 21045

**Members Present:** Darryl Burnett, Carlessia Hussein, Sheri Lewis, Paul Nagy, Gary Stewart, Deborah Rivkin, Bob Sheesley, Kevin Carlson, Matt Reber

**Members Excused:** Gloria Whittington

**Staff:** Maura Rossman, Health Officer, Antigone Vickery, Deputy Health Officer,

**Guest:** Gail Wowk, Alexandra Podolny, Christine Merenda

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
Welcome and Introductions	Carlessia Hussein opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.	
Approval of Minutes	Motion to accept May's minutes.	The motion to accept the May 2018 minutes was approved unanimously
	Introduction of Guest: Christine Merenda (a public health nursing student) is observing and so there were introductions around the table.	
	The Chair requested we add a standing agenda item called 'For the Good of the Group' this can be an opportunity to discuss other items of interest of the board members. This can be included at the end of the agenda. This was voted and accepted.	Can be included starting the September meeting's agenda.
New Business	<p><b>Presentation - Syringe Services Program (SSP) Treatment Presentation – Alexandra Podolny, J.D.</b>  <b>See attached presentation slides</b></p> <p>Harm reduction focuses on reducing the negative effects of substance use (blood borne disease, exposure to needle disposal), rather than trying to prevent or stop the usage itself. It's a strategy that is in the middle between prevention and treatment. For people who are not ready for treatment and not ready to stop using.</p> <p>Most heroin in this region has fentanyl. There are opportunities to use heroin more safely.</p> <p>We must be approved to be a SSP. So we have to develop an application. State is encouraging locals to start small and do a pilot program. Program also offers PREP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis). Four people in this program now. It is expensive but not as expensive as people who get HIV and require expensive treatment.</p>	

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Old Business	<p><b><u>Health Officer Report Highlights</u></b></p> <p>Hired a marketing firm in 2017 to develop the Department’s Branding Campaign. The work is complete and there have been several things developed, letterhead, brochures, presentation templates, wrapping of the RV (examples of materials were shared).</p> <p>We are doing more to meet a different audience and using different communication modalities. Radios, PSAs in Movie Theaters, Podcasts. It was asked if materials are in different languages. Yes, some.</p> <p>We were very busy with the response and recovery to the EC flood. Based on the lessons learned from the 2016 flood, the county has responded 1-2 weeks faster. Not a huge health response but we stepped in to support other agencies. Most of the response is related to Environmental Health. Many places are coming back.</p> <p>Child Fatality Review (CFR) – There was another child death. It is the 3rd suicide since September-May. A 10-year-old male. It is the 3rd African American, it’s the 3rd death by asphyxiation. In response, we convened an urgent CFR meeting in May and created a Call-to-Action. Conducted research, national and state stats show death by suicide is rising by younger children. There was a large stakeholder meeting hosted by HCPS who want to take the lead. The outcome of the CFR meeting, how do we increase communication about these issues? How do increase awareness? Horizon Foundation has made mental health a strategic priority. They will do focus groups. HCHD will partner with them. We also have a \$50K for MHA that will be used for mental health efforts and specifically for this.</p> <p>It was asked can BOH do anything? Yes, help increase awareness. BOH is very interested in supporting this.</p> <p><b><u>Accreditation</u></b></p> <p>July 30 we will submit our documentation for accreditation. Site Visit will likely be in early 2019 (January/February). It is lots of work and expensive. One positive is that the process helped galvanize the bureaus together.</p> <p><b><u>Other</u></b></p> <p>What happened with the de-identified data? Maura met w/ Board member. Talked about concerns. HCHD signed a DUA with the schools. We will continue to work with the schools.</p> <p>Issue increasing rate of STI in 15-20 year olds. Schools want to do STI testing in the schools. Cannot distribute condoms. Most parents are favorable to testing in schools.</p>	

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	<p><b><u>Nominations</u></b> They reviewed the resumes of the BOH slots. It was determined that the candidates didn't have the professional backgrounds needed. It would be better to repost. Still waiting for an application for a physician and still need one for MH and SUD provider. Board will do interviews.</p> <p><b><u>Orientation for new members (Fall)</u></b> Given that we will have several new Board Members starting this Fall we will plan to do a Board orientation. Not only will this be helpful to the new members but it also required for PHAB accreditation.</p> <p><b><u>Member recognition - awards</u></b> Two Board members were recognized for their years of dedicated service and will be leaving the board. Dr. Kevin Carlson who has been on the board since January 2009 and Mr. Bob Sheesley has been on the board since 2001. The County, Department and Board appreciate the insight, dedication and work of these individuals.</p>	
	<b>Suggested topics for future meetings:</b>	
<b>Other Business</b>		
<b>Adjournment</b>	<i>There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.</i>	

**Next Board of Health Meeting:** September 25, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Howard Co. Health Department 8930 Stanford Blvd. 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Columbia, MD 21045